AFTER DEATH WHAT? THIS PAPER TELLS YOU

SPIRITUALISM'S PICTORIAL JOURNAL

TRUTH

The PSYCHIC Observer

TRUTH FOR AUTHORITY NOT AUTHORITY FOR TRUTH

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MY SECOND WEEK IN LONDON

Interviews with Findlay, Daisley, Edwards, Oaten, Barbanell, Desmond, Boddington, Thomas, Leah, Wilson, Stewart, Blaschke, Hughes, Stanley-Alder, Lawrence, Parish, and others.

Conclusive Evidence Received Through London's Best Mediums and Psychics.

By

Juliette Ewing Pressing

In the last issue of *Psychic Observer*, I told about "*My First Week in London*" and related events, seances and meetings experienced. I described interviews and discussions with some of England's foremost Spiritualists and Spiritualist mediums: Harold *Sharpe*, Shaw *Desmond*, Hannen *Swaffer*, Maurice *Barbanell*, Sylvia *Barbanell*, Paul *Miller*, W. H. *Lilly*, Lillian *Bailey*, Mrs. W. T. *Parish*, Harry *Edwards*, Horace *Leaf*, Ronald *Strong* and many others.

In this article, I will conclude my account of experiences of this sort and attempt, in my concluding article of this series, to describe my somewhat exciting flight from London back to the States, the people I met enroute, what they talked about and how Mr. Pressing and I escaped what might have been a most disastrous crossing of the Atlantic.

Prophecy Fulfilled

Now to continue, "*My Second Week In London*" began when, in answer to a previous letter, I received an invitation from Mr. and Mrs. *J. Arthur Findlay* to come to tea at *Stansted Hall, Essex*. I was particularly happy to again visit this beautiful place where I had been entertained at a garden party in 1937, after having visited the *International Spiritualist Congress* which was held in *Scotland*.

The reason that a trip to Stansted Hall particularly interested me was because of a prophecy that was given to me about a visit to an English country estate.

During the year of 1930, in *Louisville, Kentucky*, I had my first experience with spirit communication. In this sitting, the medium told me I would go to Europe and while there I would attend a social function held in the country where there would be a large crowd of people.

All Data Rechecked

She told me my hostess would be sitting on a terrace, then join me for a walk around the flower garden. Now, mind you, seven years later, in 1937, this prophecy came to pass. There *was* a large crowd of people. Mrs. Findlay

AUTHOR — WRITER

Psychic Observer

J. ARTHUR FINDLAY, owner and founder of Psychic News, one of the leading Spiritualist newspapers in Great Britain, announced recently the resignation of Maurice Barbanell as Editor. His new staff appointments will be published in a later issue.

Mr. Findlay is the author of "On the Edge of the Etheric"—the largest selling book of its kind ever to be published.

The picture above, Mr. Findlay and his dog, was taken in front of the entrance to his Stansted Hall estate.

was seated on the terrace and as I walked along, she arose from her chair and came over and spoke the very words the medium in Louisville voiced to me seven years before: *I shall join you for a walk and show you the place.*"

Sometimes we wonder whether prophecies can be accurate, because many times they fail to come to pass. However, in this case, even to the most trivial incident, every word came true.

During this walk around the grounds of *Stansted Hall* in 1937, I vaguely recalled this prophecy. Upon my return to America, I eagerly checked the notes of my sitting in 1930 and found the record to be accurate to the minutest detail.

The Food Problem

So, to again visit *Stansted Hall*, which to me had a *spiritual* significance, was indeed an outstanding pleasure.

I went by train to *Bishops Stortford*, where Mr. Findlay met me in his car. We drove through this quaint little English village where market day was being held. To see the country folk gathered about and to see their little wagons filled with farm produce, eggs, chickens and so on, was rather interesting. In England, there is such an extreme scarcity of food, the sign of anything in bulk is quite a *spectacle*.

After showing me about his estate which includes an elaborate dairy farm, I was driven to Stansted Hall where Mrs. Findlay welcomed me.

In the library, before a big blazing fire, Mr. and Mrs. *Findlay*, Mr. *Pressing* and I engaged in a lengthy discussion on Spiritualism and many current events.

Incidentally, the *Findlays* turned their home over to the *British Red Cross* to be used as a hospital, during the recent war. They stayed at *Rockingham Castle*, some sixty miles distant. Though no bombs actually fell directly on *Stansted Hall*, an immense crater, made by a falling bomb, could be seen from the library window.

"History of Civilization"

As most Spiritualists are familiar with Mr. Findlay's writings, I need not go into details about his books, but I am pleased to report that "*Unfolding Universe*," "*Torch of Knowledge*" and "*Psychic Stream*" will again be in print within the year.

Mr. Findlay has prepared a new manuscript now ready for the printer. It will be called "*History of Civilization.*" In order to write this book, years of research and study were necessary. I'm sure it will be a worthy contribution to the literature of Spiritualism inasmuch as the entire theme is based on the significance of religious concepts.

For five years Mr. Findlay made a special study of direct-voice, through the mediumship of *John Sloan*. In 1931, he published "*On The Edge Of The Etheric*" It ran into 30 impressions within the first year of publication and it has continued to be Spiritualism's best seller. This book and "*Rock of Truth*" are the only two books of his available at this time.

Daisley's Mediumship

Mrs. Findlay is a charming, gracious hostess, and I thoroughly enjoyed renewing her acquaintance and particularly appreciated the perfectly lovely tea she had prepared for us. Realizing that food is very scarce in London, I felt she had more than would ordinarily have been served. Fresh, poached eggs on toast, were added as a treat for us. We were delighted because only powdered eggs were served at the *Savoy Hotel* and other restaurants in London, and by the way, even the powdered eggs have now been taken from the English rations.

George DAISLEY

Another friendship of 1937 was renewed when one afternoon H. J. Edwards (not to be confused with Harry Edwards, the healer) and *George Daisley* called to see me. Mr. Edwards has taken a fatherly interest in young Daisley, and under his careful handling, *George* has developed into a remarkably fine instrument.

They brought several automatic drawings, a phase Mr. Daisley has developed within the past year. These drawings vary in size, some several feet long, others quite small. The peculiar lines and figures are symbolic of the character of the sitter for whom they are

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

"SPIRITUALISM"

Says HANNEN SWAFFER

"IS A CONSCIOUSNESS — NOT A DOGMA"

HIS BLUNT CRITICISMS ANNOY OUR OPPONENTS

Noted Spiritualist Interviewed By

ED BODIN

Hannen Swaffer, England's famous spiritualist, socialist and journalist, *was relentlessly critical* when interviewed by your reporter at a recent luncheon, in the Algonquin Hotel, New York City, given by *Ralph G. Pressing*, editor of *Psychic Observer*.

The so-called "*Pope of Fleet Street*", whose latest book is titled "*My Greatest Story*", opened up on all *our opponents* who are preventing *Spiritualism* from making a better world for humanity. Said Swaffer: "*My Spiritualism has been instrumental in helping the Labor Government of Great Britain come into power in order to abolish poverty.*"

No Authorities

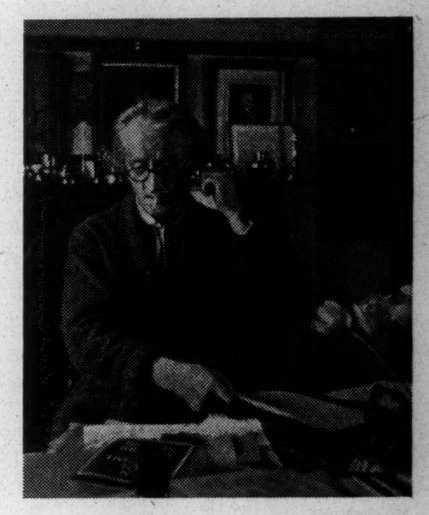
But he was not all "*milk and honey*" for all spiritualists. "*There are dangers of dogmas and orthodoxy spoiling Spiritualism as they ruined the Christian Church*", he said. "*We need home circles, not cathedrals. Christianity began with a group of home circles practicing medium-ship. Then when they stepped into orthodoxy, the trouble started, and slavery followed. A Spiritualist organization should be only the watch-dog for home circles and the rights of mediums—not the whole works or the authority. There is no authority in Spiritualism—only those who may have had more experience than others.*" And then he grew emphatic when he said: "*I would like to see a home established for mediums to work with freedom and love, and not be constantly in fear of persecution.*"

Swaffer smiled when he mentioned *The London Society for Psychical Research* and *The British College of Psychic Science*, accusing such members of always being on the fence of playing safe. "*These Societies*", he said, "*are bound by a policy of not arriving at any conclusion, no matter how strong the evidence.*"

And he mentioned another organization with not flattery when he said: "*I have been honorary president of the Spiritualist National Union since Conan Doyle. The organization has done good work in the past, but now the members seem to waste their time by always formulating by-laws, instead of attending to the business of propaganda.*

We Need Boosters

And then he said "*Spiritualism needs boosters. People who are not afraid to tell what it has meant to them, and who make effort to see home circles established with a call for guides, who are only too willing to guide. And if your motive is true—you will get good guides. You don't have to fear the devil. Guides can take care of those who hunger and thirst after righteousness . . . and brotherhood.*"



Psychic Observer

HANNEN SWAFFER, one of the most colorful figures in the ranks of Spiritualism today, visited America recently in his role as a newspaper man, socialist and Spiritualist. He is a protege of late Lord Northcliffe and it was through spirit messages received from this great journalist that Swaffer became one of Spiritualism's greatest propagandists.

He prides himself, not so much on his ability to make friends but his caustic tongue which he says will ultimately uncover the truth of survival and spirit communication which has been hidden from a suffering humanity by those who try to belittle the facts under the guise of legislated religion.

Swaffer writes a column for the London Daily Herald and The People. In America, he was interviewed by The New York Post, The New Yorker magazine, Psychic Observer and numerous other newspapers and periodicals. The picture above was taken in his London flat near Trafalgar Square.

When asked about the conviction of British medium *Helen Duncan* who was recently tried under the old *Witch-craft Act* and spent eight months in jail, *Swaffer* said: "*Mrs. Duncan should have been attached to some organization instead of being a lone-wolf. Having been informed on, by some orthodox church enemy and falsely accused of damages, the authorities figured they couldn't beat her on the usual Vagrancy Act, so they used the Witch-craft Act and all the miserable testimony they could dig up. The purpose wasn't to fine her or even put her in jail, but to give Spiritualism a body-blow.*

Millions of Spiritualists

When asked how Spiritualism was progressing in London, Swaffer said: "*There are over a million Englishmen who know and believe in Spiritualism, and it shall not be destroyed. But at the same time, let me warn mediums not to get in the habit of overcharging for their services. Helen Duncan was warned by her guides that there was a trap set for her; but she kept her hand out instead of up—and she paid the consequences. Let mediums listen to their guides before it is too late;*

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 4)

THE LIFE BEYOND

What the Spirit World Is Really Like

Life in the spirit world is one of harmony. Because it is based on the law of spiritual affinity, we shall find ourselves in the company of those with whom we are in accord. Each will find himself as part of the mighty whole, and as he ministers unto the whole, so will it minister unto him.

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The Love of God Is Even Greater Than We Have Conceived!

by

W. H. EVANS
34 Elton Ave., Greenford,
Middlesex, England

ED. NOTE: While in London, the editors of Psychic Observer met Mr. Evans. This noted medium and spiritualist agreed to write regularly and this is the first in a series of articles.

One of the purposes for which the religions of the world exist is to prepare men for a *life beyond.* All systems of religion affirm that *man lives beyond death* though none of them offer *proof.* For ages the world was content to go on accepting this belief for many centuries, the majority of people unquestionably accepted it, but it was not until the rise of the rationalistic spirit that men began to doubt its truth.

When they did, it was found that *no system* of religion was able to offer proof that man *is* a spirit and survives the change of death; the most they could do was to repeat what tradition had taught them, or *what* the early founders of their systems had said. Thus, at one time, it semed as if religion would die for *want of evidence for its central claim.*

The "Why" of Phenomena

It is curious that while most scriptures record *psychic phenomena* of various kinds ,and also that history records many things of a rare and strange nature relative to our psychic being, no one seems to have considered why, if these things happened in the past, they no longer did so, or were of such rare occurrence as to be regarded as mere illusions.

But doubtless this was due to the fact that any kind of psychic phenomena were regarded as miraculous and therefore outside the realm of law. This will account for the reason why some scientists, who believe that the universe is one of law, were yet able to regard miracles as being outside the normal processes of nature.

Thus we had the spectacle of men believing in law on weekdays, and miracle on Sundays. They kept the two things separate in their minds and so were not perturbed by the *contradiction in their beliefs.*

On the other hand, were those who carried the logic of their beliefs into the field of religion and for these there could be no such thing as miracle for anyone to assert that they had witnessed things which seemed to deny the supremacy of law was, for them, simly an absurdity.

Spiritualists Right!

For instance, how could any object rise from the ground against the law of gravitation, To them the thing was impossible yet every religion has in it's records some accounts that seemingly deny the operation of gravitation.

The fact that we do not know *all* the laws of nature did not occur to them, but the broader minded on hearing of such phenomena determined to examine for themselves, and proving that the *spiritualists were right,* brought down upon their heads the scorn of their more sceptical and ignorant brethren.

Now it is right and proper that enquiry should be made into the claims of religion, and when it asserts that *man is a spirit* and will live beyond death, the seeker has a right to ask whether there is any evidence of it.

Famous Rappings

Today we can point to a great array of unimpeachable testimony to prove the claim, and this in spite of theologians rather than through their support. The evidence comes through innumerable channels of every grade of society, for *mediumship is a part of the make-up of mankind.*

Mediums are to be found in every sphere of society—from the lowliest to the highest. The spirit people, when they opened the door between the seen and the unseen worlds in 1848, did not go to the Church, they did as they had done long ago in Palestine when they went to one who was of the people and used him as their instrument of enlightenment.

So in 1848, they went to a humble family in *Hydesville* and knocked at the door of the world. Happily some of the people of the world heard them and listened to their message.

There IS a Spiritual Body

By their so doing, there was revealed to the world the vast potencies of our psychic nature which has been a blessing to millions during the past ninety eight years. So while the existing religions were unable to give to the scientists the proof they demanded, the spirit people, *through the channel of mediumship,* gave that proof in *"full measure pressed down and running over."*

Today, no one need go without testimony to the life beyond, and may, if they take the trouble, obtain their own proof.

What then is the mechanism of survival? *St. Paul* told us long ago that there *is* a spiritual body." He did not say that it was something we should possess when we die but that it is in existence *now.*

Everyone who has experienced *astral projection* is aware of this truth, and even those who have not had that unique experience can gather some notion of the reality of the spiritual body through their dream experiences.

A Theory Crumbles

It is a fact, not sufficiently noted, that in our dreams we know ourselves to be real people. We feel such, we act such, and talk and laugh and cry as in our waking life. Even though we regard this as merely imaginary it has for us a solidity and reality that gives our dreams a distinction beyond the merely fanciful. But the evidence which *Spiritualism* gives clearly proves that *St. Paul* was right, *"there is a spiritual body."*

People often wonder what the next stage of being is like. From this fact we may make certain deductions that enable us to form in our minds some conception of the life beyond. Sometimes we hear it said, or we read statements to the effect that in the spirit world there is *neither space nor time.* That is just nonsense.

A world or body *must* exist somewhere, they *must* occupy space. A body *must* be in correspondence with an appropriate environment, hence space is a necessity.

Remember that the spirit body corresponds to the physical body, and when we pass to the next stage of life we shall find our spirit body is as real to us as are our physical bodies now. Likewise the world we enter will be as real, even more so, than this world is to us now.

Travel Implies Space

The spirit world, although composed of finer substance than this, exists in space; it is in fact related to this world. The spirit world has in it many of the features of this world. There are mountains and valleys, rivers and seas and lakes, forests and meadows, houses, temples and *Halls of Learning.* Where are these if not in space?

People in the spirit world travel and travel implies a space to traverse. The spirit life is not a purely subjective existence, for subjectivity implies objectivity. The people on the other side live as we do both a mental and an objective life of practical doing. For what is physically true will not be spiritually false.

If this world be a reflection of the higher worlds does not that prove that the higher worlds exist in space, *As above so below* is the old *Hermetic* axiom. It is the existence of an external environment over there that gives us our basis of rational existence.

What is seen is agreed on, a house is a house, a forest a forest, and so on. Without this basis of rationality life would be like that of a lunatic asylum where people confuse their inner mental life with their surroundings. *Space is a necessity of being.*

Reality of Spirit

As to time that, too, exists. Time is a measurement of motion. Life in the spirit world is not static, it is life of movement. Even thought is sequential, one thought follows another. All things flow and this flow is time. In fact, substance and space and time are the tools *God* uses to create, and without them creation is impossible.

We thus have our basis: reality of the spirit body dwelling is an appropriate environment. Hence we see that *both the spirit body and spirit world are real.*

Death is the means by which we obtain entry to the next stage of life, and I am convinced that the spirit world is so well ordered that there are no unexpected arrivals there. Sudden death only pertains to this world because we do not see the causes leading up to death. But our spirit guides know the signs of approaching dissolution and when the change comes they are prepared for it.

I am certain that just as we prepare for the arrival of new life *here* so do our friends in the unseen prepare for our arrival *there.*

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AUTHOR — WRITER

For over fifty years, W. H. Evans has been a worker in the cause of British Spiritualism. Beginning his platform career as a trance speaker, this ultimately passed into the inspirational stage. He has not been a full-time exponent but his spare time has been filled by contributing to the psychic press and for over 48 years has been contributing to The Two Worlds, and for nearly as long to Light.

W. H. EVANS

By trade he was for many years a shoe maker spending more than forty years at the bench. He left the bench to take up the post of Editor of Beyond, and went from there to The London Spiritualist Alliance where he is still employed.

Among other duties, he carries on the work of absent healing. In addition to his many articles contributed to the press he is the author of several books, such as "How To Be a Medium" "Spiritualism a Philosophy of Life," "Constructive Spiritualism," "Modern Spiritualism," "Twelve Lectures of the Harmonial Philosophy," "Altar Lilies," "The Candle of the Lord," and "The Yoga of Christ."

As a writer he has world wide reputation and is well known for his reasoned and balanced views on Spiritualism.

At present he does not do very much platform work as his daily tasks make it necessary to have a week-end break. Most of his writing is inspired and he often sits to write in obedience to an inner urge though he knows nothing of what will come. His inspiration takes the form of hearing an inner voice which seemingly dictates what is given.

He is however a keen student and has read very widely on many subjects thus providing the unseen with a mind filled with plenty of material. Not all of his work is prose and many of his poems have appeared from time to time in the psychic press. Not yet seventy it is hoped that he has many years of useful service to give to mankind.

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Can we imagine a world that is higher in its development being peopled with folks who are not correspondingly developed? And does that not imply a life that is so well ordered that every contingency is prepared for.

No Fear of Death

Everyone who passes to the next stage is being cared for. I do not say that everyone who passes over is aware of this, they can only be aware of it according to the standard of their development, so that the coarse or lowly developed being may not be aware of the care and attention he receives; but he has it all the same.

Thus we need have *no fear of the change of death;* it is a natural process designed to usher us into a higher state of being.

Most of us have friends over there and our joy will be in the welcome we shall receive from them. We shall find ourselves in a beautous world bathed in the rich, mellow light of the spirit. A world that will minister to our every need and provide us with every means for our *progressive development.* There will be no need to return to the flesh; but we may return to this world as spirit helpers if we are fitted for such duties. Our life over there will be one of continuous unfoldment.

Now the means for our development will vary with our condition. Not everyone develops the same way, but in a progressive world we shall find the means appropriate to our needs. There are, in the next stage of life, many things which cannot be told to us. The people in spirit life can only enlighten us as to the conditions which impinge upon our world.

More Abundant Life

A bird could not tell a fish what kind of life it leads, or a butterfly tell a caterpillar the life it leads; how then can we expect the spirit people to tell us *all* about their life? Sufficient for us to know they live! that they have an existence that is more vividly alive for them than ours here. By and by we shall know by actual experience what their life is, until then may we not be content.

Life in the spirit world is one of harmony because it is based upon the law of spiritual affinity. We shall find ourselves in the company of those with whom we are in accord. Hence there will be no square pegs in round holes. Each will find himself as part of a mighty whole, and as he ministers to the whole so will it minister to him.

He is thus assured of more abundant life. The basic harmony of the universe will find greater expression in the life beyond. *Truly the love of God is greater than we have conceived!*

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This Article Is About . . .

An Urgent Problem In The Psychic Field

Psychic Maladjustments

What Has Been Done? What Can Be Done?

Written Specially for Psychic Observer

BY

Gertrude Ogden Tubby

Associate of the Late Prof. James H. Hyslop

The few experts in psychology and medicine who have made a serious study of psychic maladjustments have discovered some very enlightening facts, little known or recognized as yet, by the rank and file in their professions.

Professor James H. Hyslop, founder of the American Society for Psychical Research, his family physician, *Dr. Titus Bull*, founder of the James H. Hyslop Foundation; and *Dr. Carl Wickland* of California, author of *Thirty Years Among the Dead*, have been outstanding in this field.

Speaking as one who assisted *Dr. Hyslop* and *Dr. Bull* for some years in their pioneering in this research may I give a brief report on some of the outstanding discov- that he or she is in need of help from a psychic angle. The only difficulty they meet may seem to be entirely physical or eries that they made.

First of all, a psychically maladjusted person may be quite unaware of the fact physiological, giving them no hint whatever that the trouble lies where it does actually lie.

Psychiatrists and physicians are apt to call these people *hypochondriacs*, who are morbidly concerned over what seem trifling symptoms and exaggerating the importance of them. They encourage the patient to deny the symptoms and take a more cheerful attitude. This of course can do no harm, but it often fails to do any good.

A Case In Point

If it fails, what is the psychiatrist to do? He shrugs his mental shoulders and joins the patient in fervently wishing he might be free of the whole matter, feeling that there are so many other patients who are in far more urgent need of his attention. And so there are, for he can do little for the type of hypochrondriac who isn't helped by denials.

A talented highly educated and charming lady, who was a member of the *American Society for Psychical Research* some years ago, came regularly to the Society's rooms to develop her ability as an automatic writer. She was the wife of a prominent jurist and related by marriage to a brilliant member of the medical fraternity. Her life was a busy, normal one,

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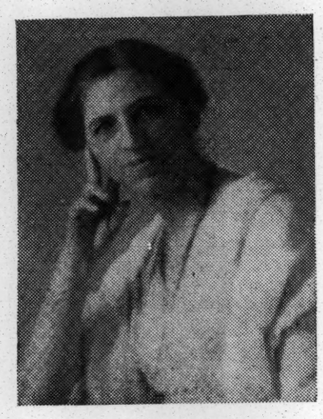
SHE SPECIALIZES IN OBSESSION CASES



Psychic Observer

GERTRUDE OGDEN TUBBY

She is a life member of A.S.P.R. and handles cases dealing with psychic disturbances at her New York City office, Suite 7-I, 62 West 58th Street.

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with a happy domestic setting and many activities in important civic and social groups.

Experimental Seance

We became well acquainted with one another, so it was quite natural that I greeted her on one occasion after her experimental seance at the Society's rooms, and asked her how she was, as I hadn't seen her for some little time.

"O, I'm very well, thank you—At least the doctors say I am. I've just had a thorough going-over, all sorts of tests and measurements, and they say there isn't a thing the matter with me, but I just keep feeling so tired and worn out and draggy all the time. It just seems as though I couldn't go on, and of course that seems ridiculous when there's not a thing in the world the matter with me."

It did indeed seem strange, for she is a normally optimistic, genial sort of person. So I inquired whether she had any communicators in her automatic writing who had felt all worn out and utterly weary during the time before they passed on. She looked a bit surprised at the question, but asked courteously whether that should make any difference.

"It might possibly. We can only surmise, but it does no harm to consider it."

"Well, yes, of course, there was my father—he had a long illness that depleted him very much before his passing. And he always comes in the writing, but I'm sure he wouldn't for the world do me any harm."

Sound Advice

"Of course he wouldn't. No doubt he has no idea that he affects you at all, in such a way, provided it is he that does so. But you see a psychic person, when in good rapport with those in the other world, is like a mirror, reflecting automatcially what passes before it. The mirror has no choice but to reflect the images of those who pass before it. They must appear as they actually present themselves."

"Well, what could one do, then? I certainly shouldn't like to cut my father off from coming to my pencil."

"Indeed no. Of course you wouldn't—and you needn't. The thing I should try would be to ask my father, next time we were in touch, please to forget that he was ever worn out or weary as he was in his last months here, and remember himself as he is now and was in his healthy years here, strong and hearty and able and equal. Explain to him the reason, which I have just suggested to you, and tell him it will be a real help to you if he will remember to do this."

Then It Happened

She said she wuld certainly try it and thanked me for the suggestion.

It was a matter of five or six weeks before I saw her again, looking her usual radiant self. But to make sure, I asked, "Well, and how are you these days?"

"Oh, very well indeed, thank you—I haven't been ill. I'm perfectly well. Did you think I had been ill?"

"No, but after our conversation the last time I saw you here at the office, when you felt so utterly weary, with no apparent reason, you remember, and my suggestion —I just naturally wondered."

She opened her mouth in astonishment, with a little gasp, and replied,

"Isn't that just too funny." I had forgotten about it completely, till this minute, and I haven't felt that way even once since and I never thought to say a word to my father about it!"

Complicated Cases

Had he just been communicating before she stepped into my office from the experiment room that earlier day? Yes, he had, she said. "Why then, very likely he was still about to overhear our little chat and took the matter to heart then and there, without any further need for urgency on your part."

And there we had to leave the matter. No intelligent doctor claims that his prescriptions produce all his cures, he knows nature plays the major role in any case. But with positive results after following a certain line of treatment, he is encouraged to try the same course again, and we may safely follow the same lead in meeting such cases of hypochondria as the one we have just been considering.

At least it can do no harm to try it out. A collection of such facts would be of use to science. Be sure to make a record and pass it along to the American Society for Psychical Research, if you run across any, won't you.*

Now of course there are far more complicated cases of psychic intrusions, both voluntary and involuntary on the part of the intruder. These would require volumes for adequate description and detail, but there are such volumes in print for those who care to go into the matter deeply.

ROCHESTER MINISTER

Psychic Observer

Daisy DeRouchie, 17 Portsmouth Terrace, Rochester, N. Y.; lecturer and mental medium; sponsored by The Open Door Spiritualist Church, Hotel Seneca, in the city of Rochester. Since 1933, she has been an associate minister for The General Assembly of Spiritualists.

Arthur Ford

The American Society for Psychical Research, 30 West 42 St., N. Y. C., devoted three volumes of its Proceedings thirty years ago to the Doris Fischer Case of Multiple Personality—the only case on record of a five-personality type that has ever been restored to normal, so far as we have ever heard.

Psychiatrists, eminent men, consulted in that case were unanimous in the opinion that it was an incurable institutional case. But they were mistaken. The young woman has been able for years to carry on her normal life, earn money, run a home and live usefully and happily.

The field for psychic reconstruction is a vast one and when it is better understood and cultivated the asylum will lose possibly two-thirds of their population, in the opinion of a medical man who is prominent in one of the western states and on its hospital board.

He gave this as his considered judgment to *Arthur Ford*, several years ago, after a long interview on the problems of the so-called insane who would not really belong in asylums if physicians understood their problems from the psychic angle. Another time we shall perhaps be able to consider briefly one or two such instances that have come under my attention.

*** There is a branch of medicine now known as Psycho-somatic medicine which meets the needs of some patients bordering on this type. Medicine is slowly gaining ground in such matters.**

The Kind of A GOD I LIKE

By

Dr. Edward A. Lohman

In all ages, all peoples have had their peculiar and particular ideas and conceptions of a God, *their* God. The Gods of the *Greeks* and the *Romans*: the Gods of the *Chaldeans* and of the *Egyptians* and of the *Mohammedans*. The Gods of the *East* and the Gods of the *West*. Each had the kind of a God they liked best.

You can know the life and thoughts of a nation, as also of an individual, by the kind of a God they adore. A warring nation has a warring God; a God of love inspires a people to live a life of loving service.

Not satisfied with their *Jehovah*, the children of *Israel* built for themselves a golden calf which was emblematic of the kind of a God they liked.

America and its people have been accused of worshipping the *God of gold*. I do not believe this is true. *America* worships a *God of love* and is proving it in its deeds of service and kindliness to the world.

True, there may be a few individuals who bow to the golden calf even in a *God-loving America*. But *America*, as *America*, is the liberty-loving, Godly-loving nation of the world. I like *America* because I like the kind of a God it worships.

What Do You Fear?

I like a God who is free from all prejudice and religious strife. I like a God who can be God without the propings and promptings of theology, philosophy or psychology. I like a God of conscience and heart and not of conceit and of the head. I like a God who is just and fair in all his dealings with human kind. I like the kind of a God that awakens the thought and corrects the habits of man without threat or fear.

There is no God to fear except the God of your own conscience. If you are wrong or bad or dishonest, you know it; *you should know that there exists the one spiritual law which alone must be obeyed*. God is the power of our minds, and our lives, and as such we need Him.

God is the inherent spark of all that is good in every soul, and as such, *I love Him*. God is the greatest influence in the world. God is not dogmatic nor arrogant; He is the highest expression of reason and good-will as reflected in the world of things and of men. *Yes, this is the kind of a God I like.*

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MY SECOND WEEK IN LONDON

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

made. The spirit artist, who draws the sketches, interprets them. The work is somewhat similar to that of *Harold Sharpe*, which I told about in the first of this series on my London visit.

I was anxious to hear *George* demonstrate clairvoyance publicly, so it was arranged for me to attend a church where he was booked. Consequently, the following Sunday, Mr. Edwards called to take me to the spiritualist church where the propaganda meeting was to be held.

Upon my arrival, the president of the church asked me to deliver a short discourse and extend greetings from America. I was pleased to address these wonderful people and tried to leave with them a bit of cheer. It was good to see them smile again.

Chicken on Sunday

George followed with brilliant Clairvoyant messages. He is a bright, friendly, charming fellow with ability to transfer a pleasing personality to his audience, all of which tends to break down the barriers to receptivity.

Mr. Daisley's messages are exceedingly accurate. Seeming trivialities, on many occasions, conclusively prove the presence of spirit people. It has been reported that he is planning a tour of Canada and the United States in 1947. American Spiritualists should make an effort to hear him.

Ted COLLINS

Another extremely interesting experience that I enjoyed was a Sunday dinner with the G. I.'s who stayed in London to take a special course at the *Guild School of Music*, located near Russell Square. Young Ted Collins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Collins of Lily Dale, is one of these students. He called and invited me to dinner at their mess headquarters in the Ragland Hotel.

Battle of The Bulge

The United States government supplies the food for the American students. The menu consisted of a large glass of grapefruit juice, large portions of fried chicken, peas, potatoes and dessert. I walked in line for '*chow*" with about 35 G.I.'s. After dinner, Ted and some of his friends entertained me with music. Young Collins has a good baritone voice.

From a spiritual viewpoint, it is encouraging to know that out of a veritable hell,—the front lines in the war—these young fellows are eager to express harmony by studying music.

Young Collins participated in some of the toughest battles that were fought, including "*The Battle of the Bulge*"... He showed me pictures taken with his own camera of the piles of dead charred bodies, heaped everal feet high, alongside an open trench-like grave. These victims, according to Collins, were forced to dig these graves before they were burned to death, later to occupy them.

Mediums Are Kind

If, after such experiences, G.I.'s can believe in *God* and continue to seek an expression of harmony and joy, then all Americans should strive to make our country a haven of peace—the inate desire of all freedom loving people.

To briefly summarize my two weeks survey of *London Spiritualism*, I'll comment on a few points that impressed me. *Not once* did I hear a medium speak disparagingly of a co-worker. *Not once* did I hear the word "fake" or "fraud." Mental and trance mediumship are the most popular. Large crowds attend all meetings.

Ernest OATEN

I was impressed by the fact that all English people looked tired. After six years of strenuous war, they need a *rest* and plenty of *food*. Severe rationing prevents this and there is so much red tape and government supervision that there is practically no way to help them.

Oaten's Experiences

Since my return, I've sent many food packages to some of the people I met. A package cannot contain over eleven pounds, and in this weight, only 2 pounds of any one kind of food can be sent. The parcel must be marked unsolicited.

In England there are few mediums who demonstrate physical phenomena. It is claimed by some that climatic conditions inhibit the flow of ectoplasm which is necessary to produce physical phenomena.

During my chat with *Ernest Oaten*, this subject was discussed. He repudiated the theory of the climate being responsible for the lack of physical phenomena in England today. He told of having had wonderful experiences with physical mediumship some thirty years ago.

It appears to me that mediumship runs in *cycles*. *Modern Spiritualism* came into expression in America through the raps which were a physical demonstration and shortly afterward, many outstanding physical phenomena mediums were developed: *The Davenport Brothers, Eddy Brothers,* the *Bangs Sisters* and *D. D. Home.* Some of these mediums visited England.

Later, a few extraordinary physical mediums were developed in England, such as *William Hope, William Eglington* and *Cecil Husk* and according to *Mr. Oaten* scores of lesser known mediums conducted private seances and home circles where physical phenomena was demonstrated.

A Comparison

In later years, in America, physical phenomena seemed to be supplanted by mental and trance mediumship. The outstanding exponents of these phases were *Cora L. V. Richmond, May Pepper Vanderbilt, Moses Hull* and numerous others.

In *England* the next psychical development seemed to express mental, i.e. *clairvoyance* and *trance*. Even to the present time, these phases predominate.

In *America*, some claim the pendulum is swinging back to physical phenomena inasmuch as many of our outstanding mediums possess *both* mental and physical phenomena.

Perhaps the cycle may return to physical phenomena in England, as several of the younger mediums I met were developing physical phases. And so, it is evident that the spirit people use first one phase and then another to convince the earth people of the truth of personal survival and spirit communication.

We Must Do Our Part

When asked by *Maurice Barbanell*, former *Psychic News* editor "*How do you think British Spiritualism compares with Spiritualism in Amerca*"?, I replied, "*As I see it, geography forbids a comparison. Some of our states, Pennsylvania or Texas, are as large as the United Kingdom. In America, it would be impossible to visit the scores of outstanding mediums and centers in less than a year's time.*"

If all the American mediums lived in New York State, it would be feasible to have large and widely publicized propaganda meetings in New York City, where great crowds would be in attendance.

If Spiritualism in America was so presented and the prominent people, I know to be interested, were all assembled in one state, we could have many more distinguished people on our platform. But since geography prevents such opportunities for propagation of this great truth, England must continue in her way, and America continue to follow her own path. Each country can only do so much good.

If each *individual* does his own little bit, thus to make up the whole, the countries can accomplish *much*. I'll conclude with my simple little *Pollyanna* philosophy, "*Each day, live, think and put into action the very best that you can, in accordance with the dictates of your own conscience, which is really the voice of your soul. God nor man can expect more. Whether you be English, American, African or Dutch, is of no importance in the eyes of God.*"

Distances Are Great

As I was not so well acquainted with London, and too, distances are great, I invited many other people to come to the Savoy Hotel to see me. Amongst these callers were persons whose names are familiar to those acquainted with the literature of *Psychic Science* and *Spiritualism* — such as *Ernest Oaten*, former editor of *Two Worlds, Shaw Desmond* and *Hannen Swaffer*.

It was a real pleasure to intimately visit with *Mr. and Mrs. Oaten* from *Manchester*. Mr. Oaten is England's grand old man of Spiritualism. To hear him relate some of his forty years research was educational. Both he and his wife are mediums. They have had remarkable experiences and guidance through their entire married life. Mr. Oaten, since his resignation as editor of *Two Worlds*, expects to devote all of his time to lecturing and writing on the subject of Spiritualism.

Kilnascrene Glasses

One of the most fascinating men, I've ever met is *Shaw Desmond*, with whom I spent an hour or more in conversation. His name was well known in the field of literature before he allied himself with Spiritualism. His books are meritorious. A student should not over-look *Shaw Desmond's* books: "*How You Live When You Die*," "*Spiritualism*," "*Love After Death*" and his latest is "*Jesus or Paul.*"

Harry Boddington, a profound student of psychic science came to visit me. He has the rare ability to plainly express, in simple words, the true implications of *Spiritualism*.

Mr. Boddington perfected Kilnascrene glasses that aid the development of clairvoyance. During the war, the manufacture of this device was discontinued, but he expects to resume work on these glasses as soon as materials are procurable.

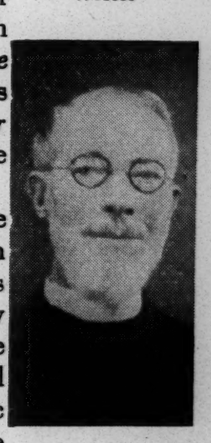
He has written several books: "*Materialization,*" "*Prophecy, Spirit Voices and Writing*" and "*Trance Control.*"

Psychic Artist

Another visitor was *Rev. C. Drayton Thomas* who is a well known figure in psychic research. He is the author of "*In the Dawn Beyond Death*" and "*Beyond Life's Sunset.*" His specialty has been the accumulation of positive evidence of communication.

Many excellent cases of "*book tests*" are recorded in his book, "*Some New Evidence for Human Survival.*" He is an active member of the *Society for Psychical Research*, but unlike many "*researchers,*" *Rev. Drayton Thomas* is a confirmed believer in Spiritualism. He has sittings at regular intervals with *Gladys Osborne Leonard*, who was formerly *Sir Oliver Lodge's* favorite medium.

Author and Writer



Rev. C. Drayton THOMAS

I did not see Mrs. Leonard on this visit. She lives in the country quite a distance from London and limits her psychic work to intimate friends.

Another famous medium I failed to see was *Estelle Roberts*. During the war, the "*House of Red Cloud*" was blitzed and Mrs. Roberts is now resting at her country home, but expects to continue her service as a medium in a few months.

One of the most interesting personalities who called to see me was *Frank Leah*, the clairvoyant artist. He was trained in the tech-

(Continued Page 9, Col. 1)

AUTHOR — HEALER

Psychic Observer

HARRY EDWARDS, 290 Kingston Road, Ewell, Surrey, England; one of Britains foremost spiritual healers; has testimonials to show that thousands of persons have been helped during the past year by his psychic powers.

He is the author of "The Mediumship of Jack Webber" (Dale News, Inc., $3.50)—a book with illustrations vividly portraying the modus-operandi of physical mediumship.

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My Second Week In LONDON

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 5)

nique of art before he developed mediumship. This added gift enables him to transfer his psychic visions to canvas in a skillful style.

I've asked *Mr. Leah* to write some of the stories he related to me about how he receives the visions for his work.

Frankly, I talked with so many people, and heard so many wonderful stories, it is impossible for me to clearly remember details. I sent Mr. Leah a subscription to PSYCHIC OBSERVER so perhaps he will read this letter, and be prompted to fulfill my request. In 1937 Mr. Leah made an excellent likeness of Mr. Pressing's father.

Armand Wilson, one of London's young mediums, called to see me. Though time forbade, I would have liked very much to attend one of his direct-voice seances. Mr. Wilson is also an artist. His hobby is reproducing in oil the works of the early Flemish masters.

Armand WILSON

The well-known Spiritualist healer, *Harry Edwards* called to see me. I was told he was devoting his time to helping humanity back to health. He has written a new text book on *Psychic Healing* which will be available about May 1st. He demonstrated his gift of healing by permitting me to actually feel psychic power flow from his hands.

Helen Hughes

James Stewart, former president of the S.N.U. came to extend a welcome and invited me to attend the dinner given in honor of *Ernest Oaten*. After so much activity during the day, I found it necessary to conserve my energy by remaining at the hotel. I deeply regretted missing this function as I would have met a great many more Spiritualists and mediums.

Eileen Blaschke, a noted clairvoyant, sent me a beautiful box of flowers, with a note expressing regret that I was unable to attend the banquet. I relate all details so our American Spiritualists will know how cordially I was received by our English co-workers. In these days, when co-operation is so sorely needed, it is encouraging to see the spirit of collaboration expressed by the Spiritualists.

I failed to see *Helen Hughes*, who is one of England's outstanding clairvoyants, but she telephoned to express a welcome.

Plans Iceland Trip

Horace Leaf, well known to American Spiritualists, came down from *Edinburgh, Scotland*, to see me. Mr. Leaf is one of the best informed men, in the movement of Spiritualism. He has the ability to technically explain the *modus-operandi* of mediumship and spends most of his time delivering lectures to groups of scientists and college students.

Mr. Leaf is scheduled to visit *Iceland* this spring for a series of propaganda meetings. He will contribute articles for PSYCHIC OBSERVER, telling of his activities in far off *Iceland* where Spiritualism and communication is accepted by 50% of the people.

At the Savoy Hotel

At *Riders*, the publishers, I expressed a desire to meet *Vera Stanley-Alder*. Her address and telephone number were given to me so I called to invite her to luncheon with me in the *Savoy Grille*. During the past year, I had recommended Miss Stanley-Alder's books: *"Finding the Third Eye," "The Fifth Dimension," "Initiation of the World"* and *"Wisdom In Practice"* and noted her clarity in expressing profound occult truths. Though I do not actually *know* that reincarnation is true, I firmly believe that *soul recognizes soul*.

And then I met her. Almost at once a friendship developed between us. Actually, the time passed so rapidly, I could hardly believe we had spent hours engrossed in conversation.

Paints Noted Persons

Miss Stanley-Alder is better known for her work in portraiture than in the literary field. She has done portraits of many distinguished people: the former *Ambassador to Spain; Alexander Moore*, the daughter of the late *Richard Harding Davis; Mme. Mariska Aldrich*, the operatic star and *Mrs. Preston Gibson*, well known to the American Colony in Paris.

Her British sitters have included *Mrs. Aitken, Lord Beaverbrook's* mother; *Lady Beaverbrook; Cherry, Lady Poynter; The Hon. Mrs. Gideon Murray* of Ellibank; *Audrey Smith*, popular London actor, *H. G. Wells* and *Mrs. M. A. St. Clair-Stobart*.

Others who have been painted by *Miss Stanley-Alder* are: *Duchess of Oporto; Princess Taliana Wiasensky*, the *Princess Elizabeth of Greece; Comtesse Rozan* and *Comtesse Mazzuchi*.

Miss Stanley-Alder believes that the expression of a personality is the most important thing in portrait painting. When she works for a sitter, first of all she tries to discover what are dominating characteristics that the sitter possesses as a person, and then her problem is to transpose her conclusions on canvas.

Afterwards, she says that the technical side, the pure painting, *what most people pay attention to first*, is easily accomplished. All this being done, she goes even further and gets unusual effects with backgrounds, which she views as integral with the portrait proper, for they too, should compliment the image of the sitter and in some way enforce and bring out the expression of the subject. This quintessence of a person, Miss Stanley - Alder calls *"The Aura."*

Vera STANLEY-ALDER

She and her husband, *Roland Hunt*, writer on the value of color, will soon open a studio where practical teachings on color value in healing will be given students. During the recent war, Mr. Hunt provided color lamps for the armed forces. It is said that excellent results were obtained.

Miss Stanley-Alder will send articles for publication in PSYCHIC OBSERVER, so a bit of her background will give a personal interest to her writings.

Another fascinating woman who called to see me was *Margery Lawrence*. She is well known as a novelist and lecturer. Among her books are many titles familiar to readers of fiction. I asked for some publicity material, so in a later issue, PSYCHIC OBSERVER will carry some personality stories about her.

Margery LAWRENCE

One of the reasons I liked Miss Lawrence so tremendously was because she has recently written a book on Spiritualism, *"Ferry Over Jordan."* Her name is established as a writer and her publisher advised against putting out such a book, but *Margery Lawrence* staked her reputation to publicize under her name, the most thrilling story she has ever written.

In this fascinating book, she tells her story about communication with the spirit world. It is well written and deserves a place on every Spiritualist's book shelf. The first edition has been sold out, but a second edition is on the press and will appear in PSYCHIC OBSERVER book list as soon as we receive a shipment.

Hannen Swaffer, one of the best known and most dramatic figures in *Fleet Street*, called to see me many times. Since Mr. Swaffer found communication with the spirit world to be a *fact*, he has, for many years devoted much of his valuable time to propaganda for this great cause. He fearlessly speaks and writes about it. His latest book, *"My Greatest Story"* is enjoying good sales in London. PSYCHIC OBSERVER has ordered a large quantity to meet the demand of the American book buyers. I haven't read the book, but I know it will be one of great interest—written in his inimitable, brilliant style.

The Parish Sanctuary

One afternoon was spent with *Peggy Parish* at The Sanctuary, Christ Church Road, East Sheen. Though I missed the physical presence of her late husband, *W. T. Parish*, lovingly called *"Billy,"* we distinctly felt his spirit presence and included him in our conversation. It was through deep distress over Peggy's physical condition that Mr. Parish learned of his own gift of healing. His fame spread across the five continents. Thousands of men and women visited his sanctuary and were healed. Many more were helped by his daily prayers for those in distant lands.

Mrs. Parish worked side by side with her late husband in his healing work. She, too, is possessed of a remarkable healing power and will continue to conduct The sanctuary healing work.

To Be Continued

In the May 25th issue of Psychic Observer, Mrs. Pressing will conclude her series of articles covering her trip to London. The last article will describe the return by plane and difficulties confronted en route, who she met and how she was able, during these delays, to comfort many of the passengers who had lived through the long years of war . . . by telling them of the truths of Spiritualism.

BODIN INTERVIEWS SWAFFER

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

for no guide can offset the power of a medium's free will. The guide can only guide—not force."

But *Swaffer* stuck to his main theme, that Spiritualism must be a consciousness and not an orthodoxy or dogma. *"The people who make the best Spiritualists are those who have never had any orthodox religious training, but like agnostics and face facts rather than fancies of creed. Then as they see for themselves the result of home circle help, they accept it without inhibitions. Truth is a personal thing."*

Make a Better World

Swaffer continued: *"Each Spiritualist is an authority unto himself. He will learn only by what he feels and experiences. And unless he attends some circle and becomes conscious of spiritual help and healing and inspiration—he cannot be a real pilgrim. The one purpose of Spiritualism is to make a better world of better people. Spiritualism is a consciousness of action, and building heaven on Earth. And you'll never find heaven through believing in ortholoxy, but by feeling God, and by doing God's will."*

Mr. Swaffer's final challenge before going back to England *"to protect it from the Churchills and other orthodox leaders"*, was to predict the overthrow of the anti-spiritualist Franco whom Swaffer called *"a barrier in the way of a better world."*

And as a final word he said: *"Silver Birch, the guide of our home circle in London, will visit you frequently. Don't be afraid to welcome him when he shows up at one of your circles. But be careful of what you say, for he comes back and tells us every word. And don't forget the purpose to build an idea of thought, and not an orthodoxy; for Spiritualism will win not on quantity but quality . . . the quality of soul . . . yes, the quality of love your neighbor, even if you have to hammer sense into him now and then. But he is still your brother. Cheerio."*

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This number is advanced every two weeks — showing the number of PSYCHIC OBSERVERS issued up to date.

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Obstacles In Mediumship

Students desiring to unfold their psychic faculties should disregard attempts to see what they can "GET" unless they are satisfied they are receiving reasonable collaboration from their spirit helpers.

Spirits are not infallible; they experience extreme difficulty in making clear contact.

By
Rev. Bernard Rodin

Every tudent of mediumship has needed to wrestle with the problem of "*self*" which may so easily color or influence psychic reception. Indeed, a good many possessing fine propensities have abandoned the quest after preliminary efforts—for this one reason alone.

It is, of course, better to do this than to brazenly flaunt so-called messages as a certain number of negligent and unthinking persons have done. In every walk of life, we find the pretentious both responsible and irresponsible.

Fundamental knowledge of *Spiritualism* should make seekers absolutely honorable. However, even with this grand intent, it is so necessary to be as scientific and as rigid as possible in making sure the contact with spirit is pure and true.

Harmony Essential

It is not easy to lay down any conclusive ruling, but I proffer a few thoughts which I feel, could be advantageous.

One should adopt a prayerful state of mind every time contact is sought. Spiritualization of the consciousness at once charges the psychic centers with a rich power so that they can be distinguished from the physical senses and forces of the being.

Every time real effort is made in this direction, the realization of the nature of psychic forces becomes more definite till, in time, there is little difficulty in recognizing when the finer senses are really in action.

Then, to "*switch them on*" can be done at will providing of course, conditions in other directions are propitious. Mediumship can rarely function successfully or reliably when there is inharmony in the surroundings.

Students for this reason, should disregard attempts to see what they can "*get*" unless they have reasonable cooperation. It may be tempting to "*give*" something to please a friend and, too many do this barely realizing that the purported message is likely some kind of concoction from themselves, subconsciously or otherwise.

In careful attempts to receive messages from spirit, there need be no fear for the guides and teachers will do wonders in controling the proceedings.

Prayerfulness (*not of the fanatical kind*) plus true effort to clear the mentality of personal ideas, will prepare a fine field for the *truth*.

Eliminate Colorization

It so often is a trial to get messages through for those we know well and especially for ourselves. This is quite a natural condition. The sitter tends to be overly critical because he feels the medium may be projecting himself and the sensitive is *ill-at-ease* because of this and because he fears he may be unwittingly "*filling in*" with preconceived notions concerning the points in question.

I think this peculiar state applies to the "*mental*" phases of mediumship more than to the "*physical*" types because, in the latter, spirit entities are usually able to function quite independantly of the psychic. But, even here, subtle impediments may be at work and it is just as well to be careful of what may be acceptable.

I have found a good way to deal with a group seeking ordinary psychic messages is to get them to place articles in numbered envelopes. Then, I "*read*" the packages without knowing the owners until completion of the delineations. This helps to eliminate, to some extent anyway, coloration which is so possible especially when members of the audience are familiar to me.

Study Psychometry

Sometimes, a humorous note has been struck when my wife has surreptitiously placed an article of mine in a numbered envelope for this kind of psychometry. If I may say so, I have found that I have been the bearer of some accurate communications to myself!

I suggest students in unfoldment classes should occasionally try their powers with articles without knowledge of ownership. Sitters could help by bringing tokens from friends outside the group, for a "*reading.*"

Incidentally the study of psychometry is a good lead in attainment of reception. Spirit controls (*as well as the potential medium*) are helped by the magnetic rays emanating from personal belongings. Such a method often speeds up the work. But students must learn to "*throw off*" any disturbing influences from these objects. Force of will, is usually sufficient. In time, "vibrations" will be realized without any actual personal effect.

Emotion a Factor

We can learn to work understandingly with our guides. I have developed a technique of asking the teachers to impart phrases to me in a style foreign to my way of speech—especially if I should be in doubt about the validity of reception. By this method, I can be reasonably sure that I *am* receiving from the other side.

We must make allowance for the fact that when loved ones strive to communicate they may, because of emotion or overanxiety, pass through data that would prove to be inaccurate. Perhaps they do not altogether understand the laws governing contact and so become enmeshed in a whirlpool which renders them partially irresponsible. It would be wise to advise sitters of this so they can make all due allowances and considerations on this score.

Experienced mediums will usually find their controls will help to decipher the outpourings of these anxious spirit-friends. Students should firmly ask for the aid of their guides when any kind of confusion arises. *The act of requesting this gives the guides the power and authority to act.*

The Laws of Spirit

It is never good to speak sharply to spirit people but to ask with due reverence for their supervision. Becoming curt or demanding will often cause the interpolation of mischievious entities and the trouble set up by these is incalculable, as every advanced occultist knows.

We can face the fact that, although our spirit friends are by no means infallible they *do know* a great deal. The thing is for them to "*get it through*" and that is why we must ever aspire and study that we may help them. The line of contact is exceedingly delicate and only love and persistent effort can really hold it intact.

So long as we clean our minds and put aside prejudices, jealousies and the like, we can be assured of becoming to some degree at any rate, a reliable "*receiving set*" for the wonderful tidings which are due to this morose world of ours.

The spirit guides know the laws and do their best to work in accordance with them. If we likewise, obey all we can, the principles of spiritual science we need have naught to fear, for then remarkable power and intelligence would be generated and we would just know the Heaven World is successfully interceding with us.

Use Common Sense

Each aspirant to the sacred science of mediumship must take it upon himself to place trust in the All Being as he himself, strives with every vestige of vision at his command, to become a discerning instrument for spiritual communications.

"*Try the spirits*"—but also constantly "try yourselves" that you are honest in every conceivable degree.

Do not thrust aside Divinely given faculties just because you may be too indolent to allow good common-sense to rule your desire to become a medium of real worth! If you are convinced that it is not for *you* to become a psychic vessel then, by all means, do not tamper with the science but instead, radiate all the love you can that others, with promising qualities may be stimulated and encouraged.

Always seek every kind of balance in all your undertakings, use every ounce of reasonable approach, attain to an ever growing *God-Consciousness* and you should not fail to find that "*Island of consciousness*" within you which is the source of collaboration with reliable spirit intelligence.

"PARISH—THE HEALER"

Psychic Observer

The picture above was taken several years ago at "The Sanctuary," Christchurch Road, East Sheen, London, England. It is here that William T. Parish, internationally-known healer, carried on his spiritual healing work for ten years. Mr. Parish, who passed away recently, is shown ministering to a boy. His wife, Peggy Parish, always assisted her husband with difficult cases — pronounced "incurable". Here she is shown by his side—lending her power, so to speak, whenever needed.

When the editors of Psychic Observer were entertained in this sanctuary by Mrs. Parish recently, she said: "I feel that I should carry on the work for the hundreds who continue to depend upon our little sanctuary for healing treatments. It pleases me to be able to help so many and I know that I am fulfilling my husband's fondest wish."

Nurse Sees Spirit At Patience's Bedside

As told to
MILDRED McNAUGHTON
by the percipient.

In the still hour before dawn *Hilda Heymann* sat in the darkened room of her patient, an old woman of past eighty, thinking of nothing but her own weariness and desire to sleep.

The patient was sleeping quietly, and was in no immediate danger. There was no light in the room but the small blue one by the nurse's table, only the dim outline of the big bed was visible.

Closing her eyes, *Mrs. Heymann* decided to sleep for ten minutes, trusting to her trained instinct to waken her.

Waking with a start, she looked at the clock. She had slept for twenty minutes. With a feeling of guilt, she turned her eyes to the bed, and to her horror saw a dim form above the footboard. Keeping very still, she spoke in a low voice, fearing to startle the patient, for she was quite sure it was the patient, a selfish and cantankerous old woman, trying to make trouble by getting up in bed.

She Couldn't Believe

Then, slowly, with an increasing sense of terror, she saw the figure was not that of her patient, whose sleeping form could be seen clearly as her own eyes became accustomed to the dim light. Turning her gaze back to the thing by the footboard, every detail of the figure was plainly visible.

It was the head, shoulders and torso to the waist of an old woman. She had a gentle, sorrowful face, and wore a close fitting lace edged cap, a white linen night gown, edged with lace at cuffs and neck. The face seemed alive, the eyes moved, the lashes were visible. There was no question but that this was a human form. There was a definite likeness to the patient in the bed, but it was just as definitely not she.

For several moments the terrified nurse stared, impressing every detail of that sad face into her mind, when, quite suddenly it vanished.

She tried to dismiss the thing as a trick of her overwrought nerves. She told herself that it was imagination, a trick of light. She had been nursing her own husband through pneumonia during the day, while keeping the particularly trying night work, and had but recently arrived as a refugee from Europe.

Then She Knew

But her keen mind would not accept this explanation. She knew what she had seen, and had to speak to someone, hear a human voice. Going to the room in the large apartment where her patient's companion was sleeping, she awakened her, and in an apologetic voice said:

"*I must talk to someone, my nerves have just played such a trick on me.*"

The companion listened with interest, asked questions, then said:

"*You saw it alright. That's Mrs. A's sister. She died in Europe, some years ago, in an institution. She was a good soul, but a mental case. Though the doctors aren't expecting it, I think Mrs. A. will die soon.*"

Very soon Mrs. A. did die. Now several years have passed. The image she saw that night is as clear as ever in the mind of *Hilda Heymann*, who does not "*believe in spirits—or anything like that,*" and has never, before or since, had anything like a similar experience, and can only say. "*I saw her alright.*"

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What I Observe by R. G. Pressing

The tenth annual convention of The International General Assembly of Spiritualists will be held June 12th to 16th, inclusive, at the Brooking Memorial Spiritualist Church, Summer St. and Richmond Ave., Buffalo, N. Y., according to Rev. Frederick Mitchell.

I.G.A.S. President, Rev. Fred Jordan, Norfolk, Virginia; Rev. Edith Green, Detroit, Michigan and Rev. Arthur Ford, Miami, Florida are scheduled along with other noted speakers and mediums for propaganda meetings during the convention. Rev. Jordan, a spiritual healer, served as Lt. Commander in the Navy; Rev. Green, mental and direct-voice medium, is pastor of The Allen Memorial Spiritualist Church; Rev. Ford is an internationally-known speaker and medium.

Since this is the first convention after the war, delegates are expected from all churches affiliated with the I.G.A.S. as well as visiting speakers, mediums and Spiritualists from other organizations.

For banquet arrangements and additional information relative to the convention, communicate with Rev. Mitchell, 79 Richmond Ave., Buffalo (13), N. Y.

Public Clairvoyance

Although I was late in attending a large propaganda meeting during my recent trip to London, I arrived in time to witness a remarkable demonstration of clairvoyance by *Eileen Blaschke*, 48 Woodgrange Ave., Bush Hill Park, Enfield, England. It is the usual procedure, when a medium works at meetings of this kind, to use the microphone. Invariably, as in this country, it seldom fails that when this device is used, a medium's natural ease in receiving spirit communications is somewhat stilted or hampered but not so in *Mrs. Blaschke's* case. Even though she was not too familiar with its use, yet, unless you were sitting on the rostrum, as I was, her annoyance would not have been noticed. For over twenty-three minutes, she called out names, dates and incidents that clicked almost immediately with acknowledgement from some one in the vast auditorium.

Eileen BLASCHKE

Mrs. Blaschke was one of the featured mediums. *Eva Twigg*, whose clairvoyance I missed on account of my tardiness, was the other scheduled medium. The event was a memorial meeting to pay tribute to the late *W. T. Parish*, who passed away the week before I arrived in London. Before Mrs. Parish concluded the meeting with a splendid talk acknowledging the kind words of the previous speakers, *Maurice Barbanell* and *Hannen Swaffer*, I was called upon and extended a tribute, on behalf of The *American Spiritualists*, for the fine service Mr. Parish had rendered all over the world.

Missouri Convention

William R. Fuller, 8016 Wynwood Drive, St. Louis (23) Missouri, secretary of The Missouri State Spiritualist Association reports that their 49th annual convention will be held May 7th to 12th, incl. at The American Masonic Temple, Gravois and Bates St., in the city of St. Louis. Banquet Tuesday evening, May 7th. Rev. Melvina Hostak, Milwaukee, Wisconsin will be the featured speaker and medium.

Medium Bayless Passes Away

Rev. Maude Bayless, 50, Crawfordsville, Indiana medium, passed away recently. Ordained in 1941 by Rev. George A. Robinson of Indianapolis, she was recognized as a devout spiritualist and ardent worker for the cause.

Passing of Shirley Whicher

A communication received from Inez M. Combs, acting secretary of The National Spiritual Alliance, Lake Pleasant, Massachusetts, has requested a notice of the passing of Shirley Combs Whicher, October, 1945. Mrs. Whicher was executive secretary of the Alliance for 22 years and did much to promote a better understanding of what she called Christian Spiritualism.

P. S. S. A. Convention

During the week of May 6th, The Pennsylvania State Spiritualist Association will hold their annual convention at the First Association of Spiritualists headquarters, Master St. near Broad, in the city of Philadelphia, according to Rev. Mamie B. Schulz, Chairman of the arrangement committee.

The Ashbrook Mediumship

A testimonial letter from Winifred T. Vandeventer, 714 25th St., Moline, Illinois reads:

"I wish to give testimony of the phases of mediumship witnessed while in Denver, Colorado recently—phenomena demonstrated by Rev. Pearl B. Ashbrook, 322 E. 17th Ave. I made an appointment to see her and she invited me to attend services at the Temple of Harmony Spiritualist Church, 27 West 1st Ave.

"I attended these services and she demonstrated trumpet work in the light with two persons talking to their spirit friends at the same time. She held the trumpets by the large end and having the people put the small end to their ears, later I talked to my nephew in spirit.

Rev. Ashbrook asked for any one to give her an address and that she would try to describe the place to them... A gentleman in the congregation gave her an address in Nova Scotia. She described the place to him and he acknowledged she was correct in every instance.

"I visited Rev. Ashbrook at her apartment where she showed me spirit pictures and gave me a reading which enlightened me very much. She then took one of her trumpets and put it to my ear. Almost instantly my mother spoke to me, and then in rapid succession I spoke to nine others in spirit. This took place in about ten minutes.

"We visited for a while and then she set up her cameras and took some pictures of me against a black background. By this time the afternoon was gone and it was nearly time for me to catch my train. I have since received those pictures and there were a number of spirit faces around me in them."

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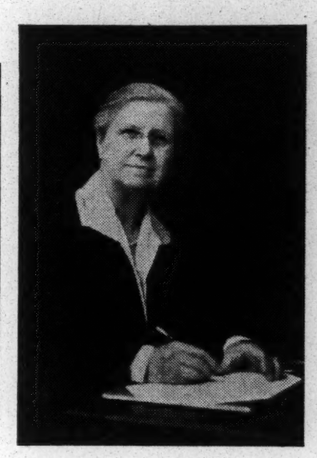
By BARBARA McKENZIE

NOTED RESEARCHER



Psychic Observer

Barbara Hewett McKenzie, one of the founders and leaders of The British College of Psychic Science, Walton House, London. She was chairman for the International Spiritualist Congress held at Glasgow, Scotland in 1937.

o o

That the truths of Spiritualism and interest in Psychic Science is growing cannot be denied. It is vouchsafed by the fact that literally hundreds of professional men and distinguished scholars see its true place in the scheme of things. Narrowness towards the whole subject is expressed by some occult and New Thoughts groups in the States, an attitude which I took occasion vigorously to combat as revealing complete ignorance of the aspects of the subject.

To spread fear and mistrust is certainly not the business of *New Thought*—though we are at one with them if they will suggest a wise caution in undertaking psychic investigation.

The Rosicrucians

I spent a few days at the "*Rosicrucian Fellowship*" at Oceanside, California. In a leaflet, I found the following:

"*The Rosicrucian Philosophy teaches that man possesses a latent sixth sense which has been developed in some, and which will eventually be developed by all. This sense enables its possessor to perceive and investigate the superphysical realms where those live whom we call dead. However, we strongly disapprove of mediumistic methods of contacting these realms.*"

There is only one way of "*contact*," by mediumship at one level or another. It is still mediumship even if it is not the professional order, and even when accomplished by oneself, and most persons can only open the door by the opportunities offered with the simpler aspects which psychic science advocates.

* * *

At the *Unity School* in Kansas City where I met many pleasant people, two leaflets for free distribution purport to be a reply to the question, "*Would you advise me to investigate Spiritualism?*"

Answer: "No, we do not advise anyone to investigate Spiritualism. A large number of the people who appeal to us for help, attribute their trouble to dabbling in Spiritualism, to sitting in circles and to following the advice given by mediums. We do not advocate Spiritualism, it is our work to tell our students that they will escape much hard experience by having nothing to do with it. No spiritualistic ideas are ever sent out from this center . . . Spiritual truth and Spiritualism are as wide apart as the poles. The Bible is an exponent of Spiritual truth and in every instance where the subject of Spiritualism is mentioned in the Bible it is with disapproval . . . No truth can be discerned in its purity by seeking through mediumship the advice of those who have fallen asleep.

Spiritualist 20 Years

Many of our Spiritualist friends write that we are ignorant of Spiritualism. I was a Spiritualist for about twenty years before coming into the understanding of Truth. I was more or less acquainted with mediums and speakers in the Spiritualistic cult during that time. For many years I thought that Spiritualism solved all the problems of existence, but I now see that it falls short of a comprehension of the absolute.

So *Charles Fillmore*, the respected leader of this movement which numbers millions in the States, and into whose offices thousands of dollars pour daily in freewill offerings for absent healing treatments, Mr. Fillmore, if a Spiritualist for twenty years, should know better than to speak of "*advice from our friends who have 'fallen asleep'.*"

I had personal talks both with him and with Mrs. Max Heindel, pointing out that with many other Spiritualists, we were deeply interested in the advance of Truth in every respect, and that our end of it, the borderline where people stepped off from the materialistic outlook into the world of the subtler senses, was a most important strategical point, embarrassed with many difficulties, but which, safely passed, resulted in their own and other New Thought movements being constantly fed by such students. Neither of them seemed to be aware of the serious work going on in Psychic Science.

* * *

The great *Christian Science Movement* adopts a similar attitude. No guidance is given on the uprisings of psychic activity, which visit individuals and which have to be dealt with, only warnings — "*Keep off*" — "*Beware*" — "*Evil*"!

One Sunday in San Francisco in a church crowded with an audience of upper and middle class people, I listened to an address, or rather readings on "*Modern Necromancy and Its Dangers*," the subject for the day not only there, but in every Christian Science church throughout the world. Happily the matter, in my estimation, was thoroughly innocuous, reflecting the atmosphere of Mrs. Eddy's early days in its references to "*animal magnetism*," etc. If the handling had been an "*informed*" one, Spiritualists might well fear such a mass attack, listened to by millions of sincere souls.

Unworthy Attitude

It is well that Spiritualists should realize that not only have we to answer the attacks of orthodoxy, but many branches of newer thought. This attitude is unworthy, and in the name of the message they themselves are seeking, in the face of many difficulties to bring to the world, I would call their attention to this matter. Happily, however, we have interested students among individual members in all those bodies.

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